

(Book 4) Lesson 42.

Three Part 7th Chords on E-A-D Strings

Root Pos.-- omit 5th First Inv.-- omit 5th
 Second Inv. -- omit Root Third Inv.--omit Root

All three part 7th chord types are available on the lowest three strings in the same manner that they were presented on the other sets of three strings.

G7

LOW ROOT POS. 1st Inv. 2nd Inv. 3rd Inv.

Remember that the 2nd and 3rd inversions actually end up being inversions of a diminished triad built on the 3rd of the original chord. ie: 2nd and 3rd inversions of G7 are actually the 1st and 2nd inversions of B diminished.

E \flat 7

LOW FIRST INV. 1st Inv. 2nd Inv. 3rd Inv. Root Pos.

C7

LOW 2ND INV. 2nd Inv. 3rd Inv. Root Pos. 1st Inv.

Any Dominant 7th chord will become a Major 7th chord if you raise the b7th of the Dominant 7th form by 1/2 tone.

A7

LOW 3RD INV. 3rd Inv. Root Pos. 1st Inv. 2nd Inv.

Minor 7th chords can be created by simply lowering the 3rd of the Dominant 7th chord by 1/2 tone.

An Interesting Problem can occur:

A7 Am7 A7 Am7

3rd Inversion

Bass "ok" Bass "yuk!"

The problem that occurs in the second measure is that the "bass" player's Root Bass note is actually higher in pitch than the lowest note of the guitar players chord. The musical result is a rather messy sounding cluster.

The pitch of any chord is more critical in the lower register and especially so when playing in some kind or ensemble setting. If the music that you and your partners are playing begins to sound muddy, there is a good chance that you are running into one another. Leave room for the bass player and similarly, get the bass player to leave room for you. If a keyboard player is a part of your ensemble, discuss the roles that you are going to play and listen to each other carefully. These problems generally will not occur if you are backing up brass or wind instruments because they will most often be in some higher pitch range. The timbre of brass and wind instruments also is so different that even if there is a pitch clash, it may not pose as much of a harmonic problem.